

# Urban Photo Diaries: Aggregate Urbanism

**L ARCH 362/598/ Urban Landscapes/ Winter 2009/ Hou/**

*[The future city] is neither a heroic demonstration nor grassroots resistance, as we know it today. Rather, we are forging in-between actions with micro-scale tactics to generate a better environment.*

Ti-Nan Chi, from *Urban Flashes Asia* (2003)

*The diaries present a way to listen to the stories and lives of neighborhood residents and see the tangible elements that create the rhythms and souls of the community. They remarry residents to the landscapes they inhabit.*

Walter Hood, from *Urban Diaries* (1997)

This course will begin with your own observation of the city, the everyday experience and the tangible and intangible aspects of our urban environment. We will listen to the city with all of our senses to uncover social, spatial, and/or ecological phenomena and processes that constitute the everyday urban environment. This year we will focus our attention on the phenomenon of “aggregate urbanism”—city and urban experiences as sum of multiple parts—large and small, permanent and ephemeral, formal and informal.

**Take** 4-10 digital photographs that document an aggregate urban landscape in Seattle. Examples include benches in the alleyway outside Café Allegro, and the ubiquitous espresso stands around the city.

**Write** a 300-word statement that provides your observations and information about the site (including location, time of observation and other pertinent information). Include a project title in your statement.

**Post** your work on the course blog (further information will be available later).

**See** more examples on the course website and the Seattle Micro-Urbanism blog – <http://microseattle.wordpress.com>

**Due: 5pm, Tuesday, January 20, 2009**

**Pecha Kucha** ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pecha\\_Kucha](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pecha_Kucha)) -- Submit a PowerPoint file with 4 slides via **E-submit** (use the link on the course website). **Due Thursday, January 29, 2009.**